

THE LANGUAGE OF THE HEART

by Darlene R. Miller, PhD

Saturday, June 11, and everything was ready—the beginning of just another *GATEWAY VOYAGE*[®], right? Well... not quite. A large bus eased up the hill into the parking lot, coming to rest in front of the Nancy Penn Center. Inside were twenty-four participants, eager, excited, a little anxious, just like any other *GATEWAY* group, with one important exception: these participants had all traveled together from Japan. Most of them had not been outside Japan before and spoke only Japanese. Some understood and spoke a little English, and a few were quite fluent. The adventure of our first Japanese *GATEWAY VOYAGE* was about to begin.

Recent years had seen progressive increases in the numbers of Japanese attending our residential programs. Drawn by books about TMI, television specials, and *OUTREACH* workshops, they courageously ventured into this different culture to experience for themselves the benefits of the Hemi-Sync technology. Two of these graduates of multiple TMI programs, Mas Sakamoto and Mitzie Ueda, began to persuasively champion the idea of an all-Japanese *GATEWAY* to be held in Virginia. Laurie Monroe, touched by her own experiences while presenting TMI in Japan several years previously, quickly warmed to the notion and gave her approval.

Little did Mas and Mitzie realize at the time what work that “go-ahead” would entail. Of course everything needed to be translated from English into Japanese, i.e., participant applications, handouts, all Hemi-Sync program exercises. They interpreted all of the English facilitators’ introductions, debriefs, and lectures, as well as evening presentations and the lab tour. Despite competing demands for their attention at nearly every turn during the week, they were truly outstanding—tireless, patient, competent, responding always with graciousness and good humor.

Our veteran facilitators Franceen King and Paul Rademacher also rose admirably to the challenges involved in conducting a week-long program under these unique circumstances. In addition to presenting and responding to the usual program and group content, Franceen and Paul found that mealtimes, at tables where neither Mas nor Mitzie was seated, encouraged them to pay even more attention than usual to nonverbal cues and body language! Like all *GATEWAY* groups, these participants brought with them personal needs and desires across a broad spectrum of hopes and expectations, e.g., to have an OBE, to be able to understand and cope more effectively with their handicapped children, to communicate with loved ones who had passed on, to explore other lives in other times. In addition to significant accomplishments in these areas, there were reports of important emotional breakthroughs,

physical healing, and messages from guides. Touchingly, there were many expressions of profound gratitude for the family members at home who had supported them in attending TMI.

One participant's comments aptly summarize the group's experiences. She wrote: "I'm glad I had the opportunity to come to TMI. I understood the program fully because it was offered in Japanese. Franceen and Paul were both very skilled trainers and have wonderful personalities. Mas and Mitzie worked so hard and they supported us tremendously. Nancy Penn Center was a comfortable place to stay. I enjoyed home food by the kitchen staff. I enjoyed seeing facilities and the staff who were also very friendly. I personally had many valuable experiences. We all had a wonderful time at TMI. Thank you very much."

Not unexpectedly, the *GATEWAY* process once again had worked its magic, transcending any potential barriers and connecting participants and TMI staff alike in the sacred and boundless language of the heart.

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